

4 August 2009

Dear

We would like to introduce Sustainable Tertiary Education New Zealand (STENZ), and to seek some engagement.

STENZ is a working group dedicated to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD) across all tertiary education in New Zealand.

STENZ aims to provide a whole-of-sector approach to Education for Sustainability. It is made up of people who have leadership roles in the sector and provides a focal point for their work. As such, STENZ has an advocacy, championing and networking role that both leverages off, and energises the work within individual institutions. It provides an opportunity for dialogue and collaboration, creating linkages for institutions working in similar spaces.

STENZ has a working group structure, with the following priorities:

1. [Advocacy and liaison](#): Engagement with stakeholders to raise awareness of new graduate attributes required for meeting future global changes
2. [Benchmarking](#): Facilitating the design and use of a set of indicators for assessing sustainability-related activity in tertiary education institutions with a view to reporting results so as to improve practice.
3. [Capacity building](#): Facilitate the development of frameworks for integration of Education for Sustainability; the identification and promotion of innovative practices and dissemination through showcase, liaison and professional development.



Sustainability is becoming increasingly important in all sectors of the economy and society. It is therefore critical that every graduate can understand the principles, values, and practices of strong sustainability. We are working to achieve this by the end of the UNDESD (2014). You can follow progress on our wiki: www.wikieducator.org/stenz

We would like to have a nominated contact from your institution. This person will be our primary contact to inform the wider institution of our progress, of resources or to seek any help on specific tasks. This person should have some knowledge of sustainability curriculum initiatives.

We look forward to hearing from you and building stronger relationships. One of our core group would be happy to meet with you or your delegated staff if you wish.

Signed on behalf of the core group

Assoc Prof Samuel Mann
Otago Polytechnic

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Victoria University of Wellington



**New Zealand National
Commission for UNESCO**
Te Kōwhiriā Mātua o Aotearoa mō UNESCO



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